

*The Act for Remedying the Ill State of the Coin of the
Kingdom, Enacts;*

THAT the several Receivers-General, and their several Deputies, and the particular Receivers, Collectors and other Officers, who have or shall have, or be intrusted with the Receipt or Collection of his Majesty's Revenues, Impositions, Duties, Taxes, Aids or Supplies, or any of them now Granted or in being, or hereafter to be Granted, shall, and by this Act they are severally required and enjoyned to accept and take in Payment for his Majesty's Use, for, or upon Account of any of the said Revenues, Impositions, Duties, Taxes, Aids, or Supplies respectively; such Clipt Monies, being Sterling Silver, or being Silver Monies of a courser Allay than the Standard, from such Person or Persons, Bodies Politick or Corporate, as shall tender the same, in or for such Payments respectively, at any Time or Times before the fourth day of *May*, which shall be in the year of our Lord 1696, at the same Rate or Value, as if such Monies were Unclipt or Undiminish'd, and shall not refuse any Piece or Pieces of Silver Monies so tendred by Reason or Pretence of their being Worse, or holding more Allay than Standard-Silver, so as such Piece or Pieces do not evidently appear to be made of Copper or base Mettal Plated over or Washed with Silver only.

That the Tellers in the Receipt of his Majesty's Exchequer respectively, shall at any Time or Times, before the four and Twentieth Day of *June*, 1696, not only receive and take to his Majesty's Use at the Receipt of Exchequer, the said Clipt Monies, which shall have been so Received or Collected by the said Receivers-General, and their several Deputies, or by the particular Receivers, Collectors or other Officers, which shall be by them brought to the said Receipt, for the said Revenues, Impositions, Duties, Taxes, Aids or Supplies before-mention'd, but shall at any Time or Times before the said four and Twentieth Day of *June*, receive or take to his Majesty's Use, in such Clipt Money as aforesaid, any Loans which shall be authorized to be made or received there, or any other Payments which shall be due to his Majesty; unless such Loans or Payments, or any of them shall be specially directed by any other Act or Acts of Parliament to be received in other kind of Money.

That Every Person having unclipt hammered Money in his, her or their Hands, Custody or Possession, do before the tenth Day of *February*, 1695, or before they dispose of the same, cause such unclipt Monies to be struck through about the middle of every Piece with a solid Punch, that shall make a hole without diminishing the Silver; and that after the said tenth Day of *February* no unclipt hammered Monies, (that is to say) such Pieces as have both Rings, or the greatest part of the Letters appearing thereon, shall be current, unless it be so struck through: And if any Piece struck through, shall appear afterwards to be Clipt, no Person shall tender or receive the same in Payment, under the Penalty of Forfeiting as much as the Clipt Monies so punch'd through shall amount to in tale, to be recovered to the use of the Poor of the Parish, where such Money shall be so Tendred or Received. And his Majesty's Justices of the Peace or the Major Part of them, in the General Quarter-Sessions, upon Complaint to be made to them of such Offence, are hereby impower'd

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to take Cognizance thereof, and to determine the same, and for that purpose to cause the Parties complain'd of to appear before them, and in Case of Conviction, to issue their Warrant or Warrants to levy such Penalty upon the Goods and Chattels of the Offenders.

Provided, that nothing in this Act shall extend, or be construed to extend, to enforce or oblige the melting down, or ReCoining, or prohibit the Receiving or Paying of Sixpences, being of Sterling, Silver and not being Clipt within the innermost Ring.

The Act to Encourage the bringing Plate into the Mint to be Coined, and for further Remedying the ill State of the Coin, Enacts;

That whosoever, after the Fourth Day of *May* 1696, shall take or receive any Clipt Money, otherwise than according to the Directions, and in pursuance of an Act of this present Session of Parliament, Intituled, *An Act for Remedying the Ill State of the Coin of the Kingdom* in any Payment whatsoever, as if it were lawfull Money, shall forfeit double the value of the Silver so Received, to the use of such Person as will Inform or Prosecute for the same, to be recovered in such manner and form, as the forfeiture for uttering Money Clipt after a hole has been puncht through it, in pursuance of an Act made in this present Session of Parliament, is directed, to be recovered by the said Act; and the Justices of the Peace are hereby Impowred to hear and determine such Information or Prosecution accordingly.

That from and after the Tenth Day of *April* 1696, no Person shall Utter or Receive any of the Pieces of the Gold-Coin, commonly called Guineas, at any higher or greater Rate or Value than Two and Twenty Shillings for each Guinea, and so proportionably for every greater or lesser Piece of Coined Gold; and whoever shall offend herein, shall Incurr the Penalties and Forfeitures provided in an Act made in this present Parliament, for those that shall Receive or Pay Guineas and other Pieces of Coined Gold at a greater or higher Rate than in that Act is directed; *which is*, That in case any Person shall offend herein, he shall forfeit for every such Offence, double the Value of Gold so Received or Paid; and also the Summ of Twenty Pounds, the one moiety to His Majesty, and the other moiety to the Person or Persons who shall Sue or Inform for the same, to be recovered with Costs of Suit in any of his Majesty's Courts of Record, by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint or Information, wherein no Privilege, Protection, or Wager of Law shall be allowed, nor any more than one Impar lance.

That from and after the Fourth Day of *May* which shall be in the Year of our Lord 1696, no Person keeping any Inn, Tavern, Ale-house, or Victualling-house; or selling Wine, Ale, Beer, or any other Liquors by Retail, shall publicly use, or expose to be used in such, his or her House, any Wrought or Manufactured Plate whatsoever, or any Utensil or Vessel thereof (except *Spoons*) under the Penalty of forfeiting the same, or the full value thereof, together with full Costs or Suit to him, her or them who shall sue for the same in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster* by Bill, Plaint, or Information, wherein no Essoign, Protection, Wager at Law, or Impar lance, shall be allowed.

